

CMER March 2019 Updates

WetSAG

Co-chairs: Debbie Kay, Harry Bell

AMP Support: Howard Haemmerle

- Wetland Mapping Tool
 - Policy approved (1/3/19) adding \$29,000 to budget to cover additional cost associated with UW overhead and hiring of technician.
 - First watershed close to completion (Mashel). Testing the tool in a morphologically different watershed is recommended. Project team looking into this option.
- Wetlands Management Zone Effectiveness Monitoring Program
 - Policy approved (1/3/19) providing SAG with \$35,000 to complete development of a scoping document.
 - WetSAG helping PM to update RFQQ seeking a PI or team to develop a literature synthesis to inform the development of a scoping document for the for the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of WMZs for Type A and Type B wetlands in meeting the targets outlined in the FPHCP Appendix N, Schedule L-1 .

UPSAG

Co-chairs: Ted Turner, Kara Whittaker

AMP Support: Howard Haemmerle

- Deep-Seated Landslides Research Strategy
 - UPSAG working on a draft Scoping and Alternatives document for a Pilot DSL Classification Project.
- Mass Wasting Landscape-Scale Effectiveness Project
 - Filing official request to remove the project from the MPS and CMER Work Plan.

SAGE

Chair: Todd Baldwin

AMP Support: Emily Hernandez

- Eastside Strategy
 - SAGE continues to discuss development of a strategy.
- Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project (ETHEP)
 - Drafting Scoping Document, currently working with SAGE to finalize critical questions.
 - SAGE will work internally to develop any further proposals to request funding.
- Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project (ENREP)
 - UI developing a Standard Operating Procedure Manual for project.
 - All flumes and SedEvent systems, including turbidity sensors and radar stage sensors, are installed at all Northeast Region study sites.
 - Stream reaches have been identified and flagged.
 - Temperature sensors and time lapse cameras have been installed.
 - The first temperature, stage, and turbidity data and the first sediment samples have been collected but does not constitute a full water year.
 - Team recommends delaying harvest to allow for two full years of pre-harvest data collection. Initial discussions with land owners have occurred with positive responses. Formal request will be drafted and sent to land owners.
 - Work on defining and implementing project data storage at the University of Idaho has begun.

- State Lands has agreed that basins within the Eastslope Cascades region may be used in the ENREP project. Several basins have been preliminarily identified including in the Coxit Mountain, Rattlesnake Ridge and Sedge Ridge areas.
 - Addition assessment of those basins still need to occur. This work to begin as soon as snow accumulation drops to accessible levels. Additional details can be provided upon request.
- Fire Workshop
 - Meeting with Paul Hessberg scheduled for May 16th at the US Forest Building in Wenatchee

RSAG

Chair: Joe Murray

AMP Support: Teresa Miskovic

- Extensive Status and Trends Monitoring
 - Policy requested that RSAG and CMER consider an approach to extensive monitoring and to prepare recommendations that would come back to Policy. RSAG is requesting CMER approval of their recommendations at the March CMER meeting.
 - Policy approved utilizing unspent funds from FY 19 to contract with University of Washington to test the transferability of several forest inventory models developed in the Mashel watershed under the Extensive Riparian Vegetation Monitoring – Remote Sensing Pilot Study. The models will be tested using forest inventory plots that were established in the Olympic Experimental State Forest.
- Hardwood Conversion report
 - Cramer Fish responded to ISPR comments and has requested clarification on several comments prior to completion of report revisions. The ISPR committee is currently reviewing and responding to the request for clarification.
- BTO Add-on report
 - Comments were received from ISPR at the end of December and have been provided to Dave Schuett-Hames to revise the report accordingly. He will begin report revisions once the BCIF report has been revised to incorporate ISPR comments.
- Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study
 - Contract was awarded to Siskowet and finalized February 21, 2019. A project kick off meeting was held February 22nd and the contractor has begun drafting the study plan.
- Soft Rock report
 - Data analysis and report writing underway. A draft report is due to CMER April 2019.
- Extensive riparian status and trend monitoring Type F - westside (temp)
 - DOE revised the final report to address final ISPR comments in March. A final report will be coming to CMER for approval at the April CMER meeting.
- BCIF Post-Harvest Report
 - Dave Schuett-Hames is currently revising the final report to incorporate ISPR comments.
- Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring Project
 - Access permits finalized for 163 sites. Access permits are being negotiated for 17 sites.
 - West Fork field crew has validated 70 sites with 4 sites being discarded because of stream adjacent roads and wetland issues. All 70 sites have plot layout completed. Data will be collected at all validated sites April 1, 2019 or as soon as tree leaves are on.
 - Three of the 11 variants have all sites validated and plot lay out completed.

- Project charter and communication plan for Exploratory Phase of project was approved by RSAG and CMER at the February meetings.
- All sites have been located in the office screening.
- PIs are working on QA/QC plan for data collection and data review.

ISAG

Co-chairs: Marc Gauthier, Jason Walter

AMP Support: Hans Berge/Emily Hernandez

- eDNA Project
 - Update from B. Penaluna project remains on schedule for April ISAG Meeting.
- Strategy Document
 - ISAG continues to work on development of a strategy document.
- Potential Habitat Break (PHB) Study
 - FP Board directed CMER to review and comment on the study design and send comments to the AMPA for consideration. A revised Study Design and Comment Matrix has been sent to ISAG and CMER.
 - The Board motion further moved that CMER work with the AMPA to create an implementation plan that employs a phased approach to include hiring staff and site selection with this fiscal year. This task will be handled by the ISAG PM (Hernandez).
 - ISAG is the advisory SAG for the PHB study.
- Default Physicals Criteria & LiDAR Model
 - Project Team crafting study designs and write-ups for ISAG review.
 - Presentation and update from Phil Roni at March 25th ISAG meeting.

LWAG

Co-chairs: Marc Hayes, AJ Kroll

AMP Support: Howard Haemmerle

- Amphibian Genetics Report
 - Revised report transmitted to ISPR – March 22, 2019.
 - Buffer Shady Study
 - Findings Report to CMER for final approval March 25, 2019.
 - Hard Rock Extended
 - The report was reorganized based on CMER review comments.
 - WDFW and NWIFC staff have completed revisions based on CMER reviewer comments for the Stand Structure, Tree Mortality, Wood Recruitment and Loading section.
 - WDFW has completed revisions for the Stream Channel Characteristics section.
 - WDFW continues to address comments in the Stream-associated Amphibian section, which is about 80% complete.
 - WDFW has addressed comments in the overall Introduction and is finalizing edits to the Conclusions section.
 - Concurrent work from other PIs (NWIFC, Ecology) on the Soft Rock Report has delayed the completion of revisions to some sections. Soft Rock PIs were directed by CMER to prioritize completion of the Soft Rock Report over Hard Rock Report revisions.
 - ISPR review of the Hard Rock Report will extend into the next fiscal year. WDFW/Ecology anticipate that expenditures for ISPR revisions, report completion, development of a Findings Report, and presentation to Policy will be required during the next biennium.
- Genetics Post-harvest Report

- WDFW received the genetics report with edits and responses to ISPR comments from Dr. Spear on 31 December 2018. Several of the ISPR comments required revisions and responses from WDFW.
- WDFW responded to the remaining comments and submitted a revised draft for ISPR re-review to DNR on 21 March 2019.

Extended Study Effectiveness Monitoring

- Stream Temperature (current work): Ecology was directed to continue stream temperature monitoring, which could continue until the Willapa reference sites are harvested in 2019. Decisions are needed regarding when to cease monitoring temperature, removal of flumes from the streams, data management, and how the latest data results (2017-18) should be reported.
- Amphibian Demographics (proposed future work): LWAG has proposed a budget and timeline for future amphibian demographic and other covariate data collection sampling, based on the Extended period result that suggests a dramatic decline in Coastal Tailed Frog density in all riparian buffer treatments as well as evidence of a decline in torrent salamander density in the Forest Practices treatment.

Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring

Project Team: Julie Dieu, Charlie Luce, Tom Black, Bob Danehy, Erkan Istanbuluoglu, Amanda Manaster, Justin Long

PM: Howard Haemmerle

- The public works bid package has been posted. This officially has started the 12-week clock.
 - Uncertainty exists around the ability to complete construction of the remaining 76 sites before the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2019).
 - Team in association with DNR Public Works looking at a number of contracting options including multiple contractors, single contractor operating multiple crews, and financial incentives.
- Project team working on:
 - Acquisition of additional equipment.
 - In discussion with a development of access agreements.
 - Completion of equipment calibration.

Forested Wetland Effectiveness Study (FWEP) TWIG

Project team: Nate Hough-Snee, Paul Adamus, Kevin Bladon, John Vansickle, Dan Sabota, Dan Moore

PM: Howard Haemmerle

- Project Tasks and Schedule
 - Revising chronosequence study and finish site selection alternatives document in light of ISPR comments that were received in late December 2018.
 - Planning site visits with the FWEP in April.
 - Pi coordinate with the FWEP team members plan meetings and revision schedule.
 - Added literature update and GIS review mapping to deliverables for FY ending June 2019
 - Discussed workplan for FWEP study designs and literature review at January/February CMER and WetSAG meetings.
 - BACI budget and workflow will be revised and sent back to the FWEP TWIG for a CMER whitesheet that will accompany the introductory and chronosequence chapters. •
 - The final BACI design will be based on feedback from the ISPR review of the chronosequence.

- BACI document revision will go through CMER and ISPR review late in the biennium. •
- PI would like to present progress on FWEP site selection workflows to WetSAG and CMER in April 2019.

Unstable Slope Criteria TWIG

Project team: Greg Stewart, Dan Miller, Julie Dieu, Ted Turner

PM: Howard Haemmerle/Emily Hernandez

- TWIG working to address ISPR comments received on September 6, 2018.

PSM Technical Group

PM: Teresa Miskovic

- Technical group is continuing to meet to work on Chapter 8 – CMER review and approval process. Last meeting of technical group was held on March 20, 2019. .
- Progress is continuing but several more meetings will be necessary before a draft will be ready for CMER review. No timeline has been established on when the first draft of Chapter 8 will be ready.